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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/022,332	12/20/2001	John Boakes	367.40946X00	2546

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EXAMINER

MCCAMEY, ANN M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED: 01/30/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/022,332

Applicant(s)

BOAKES ET AL.

Examiner

Ann M McCamey

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 December 2002.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 December 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Selvin et al. (US 4,116,517).

Regarding claim 1, Selvin et al. disclose an electrical connector 10 comprising: a substrate 12 supporting a contact 22, wherein the contact of the electrical connector is a collapsible, resiliently deformable hollow projection.

Regarding claim 2, Selvin et al. disclose an exterior surface of the contact being generally concave.

Regarding claim 3, Selvin et al. disclose the contact being generally dome-shaped.

Regarding claim 4, Selvin et al. disclose the contact comprising a metal.

Regarding claim 5, Selvin et al. disclose the contact comprising an insulating material treated so as to be conductive.

Regarding claim 6, Selvin et al. disclose the substrate comprising a Printed Circuit Board (PCB).

Regarding claim 7, Selvin et al. disclose the PCB being flexible.

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Regarding claim 8, Selvin et al. disclose the substrate supporting a conductive track 16 coupled to the contact.

Regarding claim 9, Selvin et al. disclose means 38 for retaining the mating part in contact with connector.

Regarding claim 11, Selvin et al. disclose the connector comprising a plurality of contacts.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Selvin et al. as applied to claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 10, Selvin et al. disclose the invention substantially as claimed, but do not disclose using solder to secure the contact on the substrate. The use of solder is well known in the art to mechanically and electrically connect two elements. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use solder to secure the contact on the substrate for better mechanical and electrical connection.

Claims 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Selvin et al. as applied to claim 1 above, in view of Moore (US 4,050,756).

Regarding claims 12 and 13, Selvin et al. disclose the invention substantially as claimed, but do not disclose the substrate supporting a contact on each of two opposing surfaces of the substrate. Moore teaches a substrate with contacts on opposing side of the substrate. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the connector of Selvin et al. and have the substrate support contacts on opposing sides to allow for electrical connection on both sides of the substrate thereby minimizing space.

Claims 14-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Selvin et al. as applied to claim 1 above, in view of Applicant's Admitted Prior Art ("A.A.P.A.").

Regarding claims 14-16, Selvin et al. disclose the invention substantially as claimed but do not disclose the particular use of the connector, as claimed. A.A.P.A. teaches the use of connectors in a SIM/smart card for a portable telephone. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to modify the use of the connector in Selvin et al. as taught by A.A.P.A.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 12/6/02 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Selvin et al. does not anticipate claim 1, as amended,

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because Applicant contends that the contact of Selvin et al. is not collapsible. However, the term "collapsible" only requires the ability to collapse, and it is inherent that a hollow projection is *able* to collapse. Therefore, the claim is sufficiently met by the applied reference.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ann M McCamey whose telephone number is (703) 305-3422. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)

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872-9318 for regular communications and (703) 872-9319 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

AMM

January 27, 2003

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Luebke', with a stylized flourish at the end.

RENEE LUEBKE
PRIMARY EXAMINER